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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM Braden & Buchanan

STATION WRC Radio

DATE March 16, 1983 5:10 P.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT The Polygraph

PAT BUCHANAN: Let's go back to the main subject here, subject number one. That's lie-detector tests to stop leaks.

Richard K. Willard, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division. How you doing?

RICHARD K. WILLARD: Fine, thank you.

BUCHANAN: What's the necessity to ask a couple hundred thousand federal workers to agree to submit to a polygraph if material is leaked? Isn't that a little bit of a broad brush?

WILLARD: Well, we think the polygraph is a useful tool in some investigations. The actual frequency with which it's used will depend on what the investigating officials determine is necessary. I doubt if it will be given more than a few dozen times a year in these kinds of investigations.

TOM BRADEN: Mr. Willard, I understand that you were chairman of the working group that put this thing together.

WILLARD: That's right.

BRADEN: I don't want to be unfriendly to you, but it seems to me you've come up with a mess. I mean you've got a rule in here that says that everybody has to sign a secrecy agreement that handles classified information. And I just wonder what would have happened to Dean Acheson or Henry Kissinger or any one of a number of other people who want to write a book about their experiences in high office. What would happen to yourself or your own boss if you, four or five years from now, wanted to write a book on how the Justice Department -- how good it is and